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Nebraska Health & Human Services NEBRASKA WIC PROGRAM

Procedure Title: Reporting Abuse or

Neglect

Purpose

Provide guidance on circumstances when abuse may be reported and how to report.

Requirements For Reporting Abuse or Neglect

When any person has reasonable cause to believe that a person is being subjected to conditions which would result in neglect or abuse he is required by law (Nebraska Rev. State 28-710 to 27-727 (Reissue 1989 and Cum. supp. 1990) to report such incident.

How To Report

The reported abuse/neglect should be made orally by telephone to the Nebraska Hot-Line 800-652-1999. The following information may be requested and should be available:

- ♦ Address and age of the abused or neglected person.
- ♦ Address of the persons having custody of the abused or neglected person.
- Nature and extent of the abuse or neglect, or the conditions and circumstances which would reasonably result in such abuse or neglect.
- Any evidence of previous abuse or neglect including the nature and extent.

Any other information which in the opinion of the person making the report may be helpful in establishing the cause of such abuse or neglect and the identity of the perpetrator or perpetrators.

Immunity For Person Making Report

Any person making a report of an individual being subjected to abuse or neglect is immune from any liability civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed except for maliciously false statements (Neb.Rev.Stat. 28-716 (Reissue 1989)).

Release of Information

Information that is requested by Child Protective Services when investigating a child abuse case may be released if the report was initiated by local agency WIC staff.

Release of Information, Cont.

However, if requests come from Child Protective Services or others investigating child abuse cases in which local agency WIC staff did not initiate the report, a court order is necessary to release information regarding a WIC client.